12. *Labour Legislation.* In your own words, Sir, "if industrialisation is to achieve its purpose, the fullest possible co-operation and co-ordination between labour and capital are necessary. The Government are aware of this and therefore it is that thay have introduced the Travancore Trade Boards Bill and the Industrial Statistics Bill along with other labour legislation intended to facilitate the harmonious working of labour and capital". To implement the provisions of these laws and to secure the co-operation of employers in promotiug the welfare of the workers, a Labour Department has been formed. On the advice of this Department and falling in line with the decisions of the conference of Chief Inspectors of Factories convened by the Government of India, full-time officers of both sexes are proposed to be appointed for safeguarding the health of labourers in Factories.

13. *Uplift of Backward Communities.* The amelioration of the condition of the backward communities has ever been engaging the serious attention of Government. An intensive programme is proposed to be planned out for this purpose as a part of the Post-War-Reconstruction Scheme on the basis of a ten-year programme of Rs 3 lakhs a year. A committee consisting of some of the Departmental Heads and representatives of the Chief Organisations of backward communities and other organisations engaged in ameliorative work with the Head of Administration as the President has been constituted for advising Government in the working of the Scheme. It is Government's hope and intention that at the end of the ten years proposed for working out the scheme in full, there shall be no communities which need be styled or regarded as backward.

DEBT POSITION.

14. A statement of assets and liabilities is furnished on pages 16 and 17 of the budget estimates. It will be seen therefrom that the liabilities at the close of 1122 including the balances at the credit of the General Reserve Fund, Revenue Reserve Fund, Post-War-Reconstruction Fund etc., which are not repayable at call aggregate Rs 24·06 crores. Against this liability the total assets including the outlay on productive schemes which are real assets, though accounted for under capital expenditure not charged to revenue, amount to Rs 24·61 crores, which is Rs 55 lakhs in excess of the liabilities. It may be mentioned here that these assets do not include the outlay on the Kodayar Project and on non-productive capital schemes. If these are also taken into account, the total assets would exceed the liabilities by more than Rs 3 crores. Our debt position may therefore be considered as very satisfactory.

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